JS 44 (Rev. 06/17)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS	<u>`</u>		DEFENDANTS			
ROBERT JACKSO	N		FIRST CHICAG	GO INSURANCE COM	IPANY	
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.			
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Adam S. Barrist, Esq., 2-P.O. Box 1820, Media, P			Attorneys (If Known)			
II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in One Box Onl	y) III. (L CITIZENSHIP OF PI	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plainti <u>j</u>	
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	c) Cit	(For Diversity Cases Only) PT tizen of This State			
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	■ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Partie.		tizen of Another State	2		
			tizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3	□ 6 □ 6	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Only) TORTS		FORFEITURE/PENALTY	Click here for: Nature of BANKRUPTCY	of Suit Code Descriptions. OTHER STATUTES	
☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 365 Pe	ONAL INJURY or conal Injury -	625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 ☐ 423 Withdrawal	☐ 375 False Claims Act ☐ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC	
□ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment □ 151 Medicare Act □ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) □ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits □ 160 Stockholders' Suits □ 190 Other Contract □ 195 Contract Product Liability □ 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY □ 210 Land Condemnation □ 220 Foreclosure □ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment □ 240 Torts to Land □ 245 Tort Product Liability □ 290 All Other Real Property	315 Airplane Product Liability	roduct Liability ealth Care/ harmaceutical brisonal Injury oduct Liability sbestos Personal giury Product iability NAL PROPERTY ther Fraud uth in Lending ther Personal operty Damage operty Damage operty Damage oduct Liability NER PETITIONS IS Corpus: lien Detainee otions to Vacate intence eneral earth Penalty In Product In Product In Item Control In Item Co	LABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Management Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act IMMIGRATION 462 Naturalization Application 465 Other Immigration Actions	28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 830 Patent □ 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application □ 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	3729(a)) 400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
	moved from a 3 Remander te Court Appellate Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under	Court Re	(specify)	r District Litigation Transfer		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under 28 U.S.C §1332					
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS IS A CLAUNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv		DEMAND \$ In excess of \$150,00		if demanded in complaint: ▼ Yes □ No	
VIII. RELATED CASI IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions): JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE 03/23/2021		ATURE OF ATTORNEY SB3587	Y OF RECORD	•		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT	PPI VING IFP	ILIDGE	MAG IIII	nge	

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

<u> Felephone</u>	FAX Number	E-Mail Address	
215-432-8829	267-247-3098	abarrist@barristfirm.com	
Date	Attorney-at-law	Attorney for	
03/23/2021	/s/ Adam S. Barrist, Esq.	ROBERT JACKSON	
f) Standard Management -	- Cases that do not fall into a	any one of the other tracks. (x)	
commonly referred to a	Cases that do not fall into trass complex and that need specified of this form for a detailed	cial or intense management by	
d) Asbestos – Cases involvexposure to asbestos.	ving claims for personal inju-	ry or property damage from ()	
c) Arbitration – Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2. (
b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits. (
a) Habeas Corpus – Cases	brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2	2241 through § 2255. ()	
SELECT ONE OF THE F	FOLLOWING CASE MANA	AGEMENT TRACKS:	
plaintiff shall complete a Ciling the complaint and servide of this form.) In the lesignation, that defendant he plaintiff and all other parts.	ase Management Track Designed a copy on all defendants. (event that a defendant does shall, with its first appearance	y Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for gnation Form in all civil cases at the time of See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse not agree with the plaintiff regarding said ce, submit to the clerk of court and serve on rack Designation Form specifying the track gned.	
	SURANCE COMPANY: ndant :	NO.	
ROBERT JACKSON Plaint v.			

Case 2:21-cv-01389-tinised so subsects that Filed (123/23/21 Page 3 of 16 For the Eastern district of Pennsylvania

DESIGNATION FORM

(to be used by counsel or pro se plaintiff to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate calendar)

	Address of Plaintiff:				
Addres	Address of Defendant:				
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction:					
RELAT	TED CASE, IF ANY:				
Case Nu	Case Number: Judge: Date Terminated:				
Civil cases are deemed related when <i>Yes</i> is answered to any of the following questions:					
	2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit Yes □ No □ pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court?				
	B. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier No numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action of this court?				
	4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights Yes No Case filed by the same individual?				
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is / is not related to any case new pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as noted above.					
DATE:	Attorney-at-La		DI : c:cc		ID ////
	Attorney-at-La	w / Pro S	e Plaintiff	Апот	ey I.D. # (if applicable)
CIVIL:	(Place a √ in one category only)				
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ROBERT JACKSON 317 N. 52 nd Street, Apt. 5 Philadelphia, PA 19139	: CIVIL ACTION : No
Plaintiff,	: :
v.	· :
FIRST CHICAGO INSURANCE COMPANY 6640 S. Cicero Avenue Bedford Park, IL 60638	: : :
Defendant.	: : :

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff, Robert Jackson ("Mr. Jackson" or "Plaintiff"), through his undersigned attorney, brings the following Complaint against the above-captioned Defendant.

PARTIES

- Plaintiff is an adult individual, citizen, resident and domiciliary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with a home address of 317 N. 52nd Street, Apt. 5, Philadelphia, PA 19139.
- Defendant, First Chicago Insurance Company ("First Chicago" or "Defendant"), is, upon information and belief, a corporation, partnership or other business entity with a place of incorporation of, principal place of business and citizenship of 6640 S. Cicero Avenue, Bedford Park, IL 60638.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. Jurisdiction is conferred pursuant to 28 U.S.C §1332 as Plaintiff is a citizen, resident and domiciliary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Defendant is a corporation, partnership or other business entity with a place of incorporation, principal place of business of and citizenship of the State of Illinois.
- 4. There is, therefore, complete diversity between all Plaintiffs and all Defendants.
- 5. The amount in controversy exceeds the sum of \$75,000.00, exclusive of interest, fees and costs.
- 6. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) and (2), as the personal injuries that are the subject of this litigation occurred in Philadelphia, PA, within this District.

FACTS

- 7. On July 30, 2020, Mr. Jackson, while a passenger in a commercial van, was severely injured when Christopher Goodman ("Mr. Goodman") negligently struck his vehicle from behind while it was at a complete stop at the intersection of 52nd Street and Baltimore Avenue in Philadelphia, PA.
- 8. The vehicle in which Mr. Jackson was a passenger was a commercial vehicle being driven by First Chicago insured, Hamilton Enterprises of Philadelphia ("Hamilton").
- 9. Prior to the institution of this suit, Mr. Goodman's third-party bodily injury insurance policy limits were fully tendered to Mr. Jackson, who was injured as the result of his negligence.
- 10. Prior to accepting a settlement with Mr. Goodman's insurer in the third-party bodily injury claim, Mr. Jackson sought and obtained from First Chicago permission to do so, so that he could pursue the within claim for Underinsured Motorist ("UIM") benefits under Hamilton's

- First Chicago UIM policy. A true and correct copy of the January 28, 2021 letter from First Chicago, approving of the underlying third-party bodily injury settlement, is attached hereto, incorporated herein, and marked as Exhibit "A."
- 11. Under Pennsylvania law, as a passenger in the Hamilton vehicle that was insured by First Chicago, Mr. Jackson is entitled to UIM benefits under the First Chicago policy.
- 12. At all relevant times, Mr. Jackson was an intended third-party beneficiary of the First Chicago UIM policy, as he was a commercial passenger in the Hamilton vehicle.
- 13. Mr. Jackson, a passenger, was not charged nor deemed at fault for his role in the subject collision.
- 14. Such violent collision caused Mr. Jackson to a) sustain the permanent injuries described below, that have caused his body to not heal or function normally with further medical treatment; and b) suffer significant financial harm.
- 15. As the direct and proximate cause of Mr. Goodman's negligence as stated above, Mr. Jackson has suffered severe permanent physical injury and financial loss.
- 16. The injuries that Mr. Jackson has sustained are permanent in nature. Mr. Jackson has suffered great physical and mental pain and anguish, and in all reasonable probability, will continue to suffer in this manner for a long time in the future, if not for the balance of his natural life.
- 17. As a further result of the above negligent acts committed by Mr. Goodman, Mr. Jackson has incurred and will continue to incur substantial medical expenses for medical care and attention and will continue to incur additional medical expenses into the foreseeable future.
- 18. In addition, Mr. Jackson has suffered other economic injury and will likely continue to suffer such economic injury.

- 19. Mr. Goodman operated his vehicle in such a reckless, careless, and/or negligent manner as to have caused the aforesaid collision to occur.
- 20. Mr. Goodman had a duty to Mr. Jackson to not operate his vehicle in such a reckless, careless, and/or negligent manner.
- 21. Mr. Goodman breached said duty, as set forth below.
- 22. As a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid acts, omissions, recklessness, carelessness, and/or negligence on the part of Mr. Goodman, Mr. Jackson suffered severe personal injuries; has been and will be in the future, made to endure great pain and suffering, both physical and mental in nature, has been and will be in the future required to expend great sums of money for medical services; has been and will be in the future prevented from attending to his regular activities, duties and responsibilities; has been and will in the future be made to suffer lost earnings and other pecuniary loss.
- 23. The aforesaid accident was caused by the negligence, carelessness, and/or recklessness of Mr. Goodman, because he:
 - a. Failed to keep his vehicle under control at all relevant times;
 - b. Was driving at an excessive speed under the circumstances;
 - c. Violated the Assured Clear Distance Ahead Rule;
 - d. Disregarded traffic signals and signs;
 - e. Failed to keep a proper lookout;
 - f. Violently struck Plaintiff's vehicle from behind;
 - g. Was driving in distracted fashion;
 - h. Caused a violent collision to take place; and
 - i. Otherwise failed to exercise due care under the circumstances.

- 24. As the result of the above-referenced accident, Mr. Jackson suffered painful and serious injuries, including, but not limited to:
 - a. fractured ribs;
 - b. disc herniations from C3 through C5;
 - c. disc herniations from L2 through S1;
 - d. radiculopathy;
 - e. cervicalgia;
 - f. nerve damage throughout his body;
 - g. strains, sprains, disc bulges and disc herniations throughout his body, the extent of which is presently unknown;
 - h. torn ligaments and tendons throughout his body, the extent of which is presently unknown;
 - i. head injuries, the extent of which is presently unknown; and
 - j. emotional harm, the extent of which is presently unknown.
- 25. As a result of such accident, Mr. Jackson has incurred medical expenses and will continue to incur said medical expenses for an indefinite time into the future.
- 26. As a result of such accident, Mr. Jackson suffered grievous pain and suffering and may continue to suffer same for an indefinite time into the future.
- 27. As a further result of such accident, Mr. Jackson has suffered and will continue to suffer a loss of life's pleasures.

COUNT ONE – BAD FAITH

- 28. Plaintiff incorporates, by reference, the foregoing paragraphs, as though set forth fully herein.
- 29. Mr. Jackson, an intended third-party beneficiary of the First Chicago UIM policy, was an

- "insured" of First Chicago, within the meaning of 42 Pa.C.S.A. §8371, which statute imposes a duty upon an insurance company to act in good faith in dealing with Mr. Jackson, including but not limited to the handling of his underinsured motorist claim.
- 30. First Chicago's duty to act in good faith included, without limitation, the obligation to act with reasonable promptness in evaluating and responding to Mr. Jackson's claims and with reasonable fairness.
- 31. In view of the foregoing, First Chicago acted in bad faith as follows:
 - a. Failure to make any offer of settlement after having been presented with full and complete documentary proof of 1) the extent of Mr. Jackson's collision-related injuries; 2) the clear liability on the part of the tortfeasor; and 3) the extent of the tortfeasor's bodily injury insurance limits and that such limits had been tendered;
 - b. Failure to make a fair offer of settlement after having been presented with full and complete documentary proof of 1) the extent of Mr. Jackson's collision-related injuries; 2) the clear liability on the part of the tortfeasor (including, but not limited to the tortfeasor having pled guilty to a traffic-related charge in connection with the subject collision); and 3) the extent of the tortfeasor's bodily injury insurance limits and that such limits had been tendered;
 - c. Failure to properly investigate Mr. Jackson's claim;
 - d. Failure to properly consider evidence supplied by Mr. Jackson and his counsel in support of his claim;
 - e. Causing Mr. Jackson to suffer undue hardship as a result of reckless, wanton and arbitrary claims-handling practices;
 - f. Willfully neglecting to consider or process evidence in an effort to save from paying
 Mr. Jackson the benefits to which he was legally entitled;

- g. Adopting a company practice of intentionally undervaluing underinsured motorist claims and delaying paying said claims for an unreasonable period of time;
- h. Delaying and refusing to pay Mr. Jackson's claim despite having no medical or legal reason not to;
- i. Forcing Mr. Jackson to file suit to recover UIM benefits owing to him;
- j. Failing to make reasonable and fair offers of settlement of Mr. Jackson's UIM claim;
- k. Making representations that were unreasonable in light of the facts and circumstances surrounding Mr. Jackson's claims;
- 1. Making offers of settlement that were unfair and unreasonable in light of the injuries and losses sustained by Mr. Jackson as a result of the collision;
- m. Breaching covenants of good faith and fair dealing;
- n. Failing to pay all sums of money owed to Mr. Jackson;
- o. Causing Mr. Jackson unnecessary and undue hardships;
- Engaging in unfair settlement negotiations with their insured / intended third-party beneficiary;
- q. Maintaining positions contrary to the policy, facts and evidence; and
- r. Committing various violations of the Pennsylvania's Unfair Insurance Practices Act, 40 P.S. §1171.1 et seq. and related regulations including but not limited to The Unfair Claim Settlement Practices Regulations, 31 §146.1 et seq.
- 32. First Chicago's actions have been in reckless disregard of Mr. Jackson's rights, and have been willful, wanton and outrageous.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Robert Jackson, demands judgment against the Defendant, First Chicago, in an amount in excess of \$150,000.00, for any and all damages provided under 42

Pa.C.S.A. §8371, including without limitation to, punitive damages, costs, fees and whatever additional relief that this Honorable Court deems just and appropriate.

<u>COUNT TWO – UNDERINSURED MOTORIST COVERAGE</u>

- 33. Plaintiff incorporates, by reference, the foregoing paragraphs, as though set forth fully herein.
- 34. Mr. Jackson is an intended third-party beneficiary of Hamilton's First Chicago UIM policy which provides for UIM coverage. (Despite request, Plaintiff has not been provided with the subject policy or Declarations Page. However, Defendant is in possession of the same is aware/on notice of its contents).
- 35. First Chicago is and was duly licensed to engage in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the sale, issuance and distribution of policies of automobile insurance providing various forms of coverage to drivers, passengers and owners of automobiles in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 36. First Chicago did issue for consideration, a UIM policy, which provides, pursuant to Pennsylvania law, for UIM coverage, and under said coverage, First Chicago agreed to pay all sums which, *inter alia*, occupants of Hamilton's vehicle would legally be entitled to recover in the event of an underinsured motorist scenario, such as the one that exists in this case. (Despite request, Plaintiff has not been provided with the subject policy or Declarations Page. However, Defendant is in possession of the same is aware/on notice of its contents).
- 37. First Chicago is, therefore, liable to Mr. Jackson, an occupant of the First Chicago-insured vehicle of Hamilton for his injuries, damages and losses caused by the negligence of Mr. Goodman, who was underinsured at the time of the subject collision.
- 38. Despite having made a demand under Hamilton's First Chicago UIM policy, First Chicago has refused to properly negotiate a reasonable settlement for the injuries and damages in the

subject collision, pursuant to the aforesaid contract of insurance.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Robert Jackson, demands judgment against the Defendant, First Chicago, in an amount in excess of \$150,000.00, plus costs, fees and whatever additional relief that this Honorable Court deems just and appropriate.

COUNT THREE – BREACH OF CONTRACT

- 39. Plaintiff incorporates, by reference, the foregoing paragraphs, as though set forth fully herein.
- 40. In accordance with the Hamilton UIM policy issued by First Chicago, Mr. Jackson, an intended third-party beneficiary of that policy, which was entered into for his benefit, for valuable consideration, made a claim for benefits under such policy.
- 41. Upon information and belief, First Chicago improperly, unjustifiably and unconscionably attempted to deny benefits due and/or failed to timely pay benefits due under the policy pursuant to a bias.
- 42. First Chicago misrepresented and deliberately under-evaluated Mr. Jackson's UIM claim.
- 43. First Chicago has refused and failed to pay the reasonable value of Mr. Jackson's UIM claim.
- 44. First Chicago has wrongfully withheld benefits owed to Mr. Jackson pursuant to the policy.
- 45. First Chicago did so by knowingly evaluating its financial interests above the interests of its insured.
- 46. As a further consequence of First Chicago's breach of the Insurance Policy, First Chicago has been unjustifiably enriched to the detriment of Mr. Jackson.
- 47. As a further consequence of First Chicago's breach of the Insurance Policy, Mr. Jackson has suffered losses, including but not limited to loss of use of benefits payable.

48. The actions of First Chicago described in this Complaint represent a breach of contract.

49. As a result of First Chicago's actions as described, they breached their obligation of good

faith and fair dealing.

50. Mr. Jackson had been damaged in a sum not yet fully determined, but in any event to be

proved at the time of trial.

51. Mr. Jackson is not in possession of the subject contract governing his insurance coverage

with First Chicago and is therefore unable to attach it to this Complaint. However, First

Chicago is in possession of the same and is on notice of the contractual provisions that Mr.

Jackson alleges have been breached.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Robert Jackson, demands judgment against the Defendant, First

Chicago, in an amount in excess of \$150,000.00, plus punitive damages, costs, fees and whatever

additional relief that this Honorable Court deems just and appropriate.

THE BARRIST FIRM, LLC

By: /s/ ASB3587

Adam S. Barrist, Esq.

THE BARRIST FIRM, LLC

P.O. Box 1820

Media, PA 19063

Attorney for Plaintiff

Date: March 23, 2021

10

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

ROBERT JACKSON 317 N. 52 nd Street, Apt. 5 Philadelphia, PA 19139	: : CIVIL ACTION : : No.
Plaintiff,	: : : :
v.	· :
FIRST CHICAGO INSURANCE COMPANY 6640 S. Cicero Avenue Bedford Park, IL 60638	; ; ;
Defendant.	; ; ;

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff, Robert Jackson, hereby demands a trial by twelve (12) jurors.

Respectfully submitted,

THE BARRIST FIRM, LLC

By: /s/ ASB3587 Adam S. Barrist, Esq. THE BARRIST FIRM, LLC P.O. Box 1820

Media, PA 19063

Attorney for Plaintiff

Date: March 23, 2021

EXHIBIT "A"



6640 S. Cicero Avenue PO Box 389508 Bedford Park, IL 60638 Telephone 708-552-4400 or 888-262-8864 Facsimile 708-552-4499

January 28, 2021

The Barrist Firm P.O. Box 1820 Media, PA 19063

Re: Your Client: Robert Jackson

Date of Loss: 07/30/2020 Our Claim Number: 139975

Our Insured: Hamilton Enterprises of Philadelphia Inc

Dear Mr. Adam Barrist:

This will serve to acknowledge receipt of your email correspondence dated January 21, 2021. Please be advised that authorization is hereby extended for you to accept State Farm Insurance Co. tender of their \$15,000.00 policy limits to the injured party.

The company's action in this matter should not be construed by any party as a waiver of any rights or defenses the company has under the policy of insurance. The company reserves its rights to assert any rights or declinations of coverage (known or unknown) it may have under the policy of insurance or the laws of the State of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

KETTH WICKLUND

Keith Wicklund Claims Department P:708-325-5195